

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A method performed on a processing device, comprising:  
storing a simulation version of a project baseline, the simulation version comprising first objects that define elements of the project baseline;  
copying the simulation version to create an operative version of the project baseline;  
changing the simulation version by associating second objects with the baseline objects, the first objects being separate from the second objects and the first objects not changing when the simulation version is changed;  
~~modifying~~ changing the operative version in connection with changes to the simulation version, the operative version comprising third objects that are versions of the first objects that are changed in accordance with the second objects;  
updating a portion of the project baseline that succeeds a time at which the operative version is changed ~~modified~~; and  
obtaining, via the changed ~~modified~~ operative version, an earned value for a project that corresponds to the updated project baseline.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the earned value is obtained based on an amount of work done on the project and a pre-assigned value for the project baseline.

3. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the amount of work done corresponds to a portion of the project that has been completed.

4. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein:  
the project baseline comprises a number of tasks, each of the tasks having an assigned value; and

wherein obtaining the earned value comprises:

determining which of the tasks has been completed; and  
combining assigned values for completed tasks.

5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein ~~modifying~~ changing the operative version in connection with changes to the simulation version comprises:

augmenting the simulation version with a task, the task being defined by the second objects;

~~mapping the task to the operative version; and~~

~~reformulating wherein the operative version~~ third objects ~~to~~ account for the task prior to obtaining the earned value.

6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 5, wherein augmenting comprises adding the ~~task~~ second objects to the simulation version but keeping the ~~task~~ second objects separate from the first objects ~~previously existing tasks on the simulation version~~.

7. (Canceled)

8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 5 7, wherein ~~the operative version is reformulated so that~~ a portion of the operative version that precedes a time that the task is incorporated is unchanged.

9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 5 7, wherein ~~the operative version is reformulated so that~~ a portion of the operative version that succeeds a time that the task is incorporated is changed.

10. (Original) The method of claim 5, wherein the task is selected from among other tasks for mapping to the operative version.

11 to 18. (Canceled)

19. (Currently Amended) A machine-readable medium that stores executable instructions which, when executed, cause a machine to:

store a simulation version of a project baseline, the simulation version comprising first objects that define elements of the project baseline;

copy the simulation version to create an operative version of the project baseline;

change the simulation version by associating second objects with the baseline objects, the first objects being separate from the second objects and the first objects not changing when the simulation version is changed;

~~modifying~~ change the operative version in connection with changes to the simulation version, the operative version comprising third objects that are versions of the first objects that are changed in accordance with the second objects;

update a portion of the project baseline that succeeds a time at which the operative version is changed ~~modified~~; and

obtain, via the changed ~~modified~~ operative version, an earned value for a project that corresponds to the updated project baseline.

20. (Original) The machine-readable medium of claim 19, wherein the earned value is obtained based on an amount of work done on the project and a pre-assigned value for the project baseline.

21. (Original) The machine-readable medium of claim 20, wherein the amount of work done corresponds to a portion of the project that has been completed.

22. (Original) The machine-readable medium of claim 20, wherein:  
the project baseline comprises a number of tasks, each of the tasks having an assigned value; and

wherein obtaining the earned value comprises:

determining which of the tasks has been completed; and  
combining assigned values for completed tasks.

23. (Currently Amended) The machine-readable medium of claim 19, wherein changing ~~modify~~ the operative version in connection with changes to the simulation version comprises:

augmenting the simulation version with a task, the task being defined by the second objects;

~~mapping the task to the operative version; and~~

~~reformulating the operative version to~~ wherein the third objects account for the task prior to obtaining the earned value.

24. (Currently Amended) The machine-readable medium of claim 23, wherein augmenting comprises adding the ~~task~~ second objects to the simulation version but keeping the ~~task~~ second objects separate from the first objects ~~previously-existing tasks on the simulation version~~.

25. (Canceled)

26. (Currently Amended) The machine-readable medium of claim 23-25, wherein ~~the operative version is reformulated so that~~ a portion of the operative version that precedes a time that the task is incorporated is unchanged.

27. (Currently Amended) The machine-readable medium of claim 23-25, wherein ~~the operative version is reformulated so that~~ a portion of the operative version that succeeds a time that the task is incorporated is changed.

28. (Original) The machine-readable medium of claim 23, wherein the task is selected from among other tasks for mapping to the operative version.

29 to 54.